

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 AGR-10 AID-05 EB-07 IO-10

RSC-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-01 IGA-01 FDRE-00 DODE-00

INT-05 PC-05 OES-05 INR-07 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 OMB-01 L-02

H-02 /076 W

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R 161153Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANJUL

TO USINFO WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

SECSTATE WASHDC 2185

UNCLAS BANJUL 725

USIA FOR IBS/PA, IPS/PA, IAA

DEPT FOR AF/W

BANJUL, 16 DEC 74 -- THE GAMBIA WILL RECEIVE DOLS 675,000 (D1,093,500 EQUIVALENT) IN AID FROM THE UNITED STATES OVER THE NEXT 18 MONTHS FOLLOWING THE OFFICIAL SIGNING OF THE GRANT AGREEMENT IN BANJUL MONDAY MORNING, DEC 16. IN CEREMONIES AT THE GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BY THE GAMBIAN MINISTER OF FINANCE AND TRADE, ALHAJI, THE HONORABLE I. M. GARBA-JAHUMPA, AND THE U.S. AMBASSADOR O. RUDOLPH AGGREY.

THE GRANT, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT OF ITS KIND IN THE HISTORY OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GAMBIA AND THE UNITED STATES, WILL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN COOPERATION WITH THE GAMBIAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. PROGRAMS IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, RANGE MANAGEMENT, LIVESTOCK AND WATERDEVELOPMENT, ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE FINANCED BY THE FUNDS, WHICH MAY BE EXPENDED IN THE GAMBIA FOR GOODS AND SERVICES.

OFFICIALS OF THE GAMBIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DESIGNED THE PROGRAM TO PROMOTE SHORT-
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TERM RECOVERY FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE SAHELIAN DROUGHT, AND TO

ESTABLISH A BASE FOR LONGER-TERM DEVELOPMENT. THE IMMEDIATE IMPACT OF THE PROGRAM IS INTENDED TO ASSIST IN MITIGATING OR FORESTALLING EMERGENCY CONDITIONS IN FUTURE YEARS OF IRREGULAR OR INSUFFICIENT RAINFALL.

THE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED IN THE AGREEMENT SIGNED MONDAY MORNING IS IN ADDITION TO EMERGENCY FOOD SHIPMENTS SUPPLIED BY THE UNITED STATES IN THE WAKE OF THE SAHELIAN DROUGHT, WHICH TOTALED 5,374.5 METRIC TONS OF DIRECT FOOD AID AND 2,000 METRIC TONS THROUGH THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM.

UNDER THE NEW AID AGREEMENT, GAMBIAN AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS ARE EXPECTED TO DEVELOP ACTIVITIES IN ANIMAL HEALTH AND DISEASE CONTROL, SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION, SEED MULTIPLICATION, VEGETABLE GROWING, AND AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION UNITS, AMONG OTHERS.

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